REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 2, 2003. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-14, 16-22, 24-26, 28, 30 and 31 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 9, 17, 19, 21, and 30 are in independent form. Claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 23, 27, and 29 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-10, 13, 14, 16-22, 25, 26, 28, 30, and 31 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 6, 14, and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. Those claims have not been so amended because, for the reasons given below, their respective base claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-25, and 27-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,699,492 (Karaki).

In conventional systems, in a case where a print command is sent by an application program but no font is designated in the font data, printer driver software generates print data using a default font. However, if a system spools print commands sent by an application as intermediate data and no font is designated in the font data, it is impossible to perform preprocessing such as a printout preview before the printer driver software has generated the print data.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in independent Claim 1 addresses this problem by acquiring a local ID and loading a resource file based on the local ID and converting, based on the resource file, font data of the intermediate code data to default font data.

More specifically, independent Claim 1 is directed to a data processing apparatus that comprises first conversion means for spooling a drawing command based on data generated by an application program and converting the data to intermediate code data, and acquiring means for acquiring a local ID and loading a resource file based on the local ID. Also present are second conversion means for converting, based on the resource file loaded by the acquiring means, font data of the intermediate code data to default font data, and print data generation means for generating print data, which can be interpreted by the external device, based on the intermediate code data.

Karaki relates to a printing system in which a preprocessor 15 (see, e.g., Figs. 1 and 3) receives drawing commands from a GDI module 9, detects a black area that contacts a area, and revises drawing data so that the color of the black area becomes composite black (i.e., to be printed using a mixture of color inks, rather than using black ink). Applicants submit, however, that nothing has been found in *Karaki* that would teach or suggest either the feature of Claim 1 discussed above (specifically, acquiring a local ID and loading a resource file based on the local ID and converting, based on the resource file, font data of the intermediate code data to default font data), or even the problem that the present invention is intended to address. For at least that reason, Claim 1 is believed to be clearly allowable over *Karaki*.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in independent Claim 17 is a data processing apparatus having display means, and comprising conversion means for spooling a drawing command based on data generated by an application program and converting the data to intermediate code data. Also provided are acquiring means for acquiring a local ID and loading a resource file based on the local ID, and print data generation means for generating print data,

which can be interpreted by the external device, based on the intermediate code data. According to Claim 17, the conversion means causes display of a predetermined message on the display means during a processing procedure of the conversion means, and a language of the predetermined message is changed in accordance with the resource file.

Among other important features of the apparatus of Claim 17 is the conversion means caused to display a predetermined message on the display means during a conversion procedure and that a language of the predetermined message is changed in accordance with a resource file. Applicants believe that Claim 17 should be allowed because these features were originally defined in Claim 6, indicated as defining allowable subject matter.
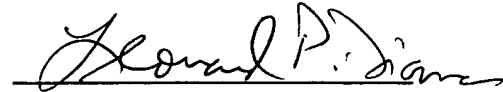
The other independent claims are each, variously, a method or a storage-medium claim corresponding either to Claim 1 or to Claim 17, and therefore, those claims also are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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